

**TOWNSHIP OF BERKELEY HEIGHTS  
UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
COUNCIL MEETING HELD MAY 21, 2013**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

At 7:05 p.m. Mayor Bruno called the meeting to order and stated that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by posting the same on the bulletin board of Town Hall and forwarding a copy to the Courier News and Star Ledger at least forty-eight hours prior to the meeting, all in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. This meeting will not go substantially past 10:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Mr. Delia, Mr. Pirone, Mr. Woodruff and Mayor Bruno answered present. Mr. Pastore, Mrs. Kingsley and Hall were absent. Also present was Township Attorney Joseph Sordillo and Acting Township Clerk Ana Minkoff.

Mayor Bruno pointed out are not enough Council members present at the meeting to adopt an ordinance. He added the ordinance on the agenda will be held and re-scheduled without further notice and placed on the next meeting agenda which is June 11<sup>th</sup>.

**FLAG SALUTE**

Mayor Bruno asked everyone present to stand as he led the Flag Salute.

**CONFERENCE SESSION – Union County Secession**

Mayor Bruno said for the next few meetings there will be discussion on secession and the pros and cons. There are handouts on the secession movement available to the public. He said in this handout there are some questions and answers that may help the residents to understand better. Mayor Bruno said if the Council wishes to move forward a resolution must be put on the agenda by August 6<sup>th</sup> to have a question put on the ballot for the General Election. Mayor Bruno continued to explain the process and he continued with his remarks in length.

Mr. Woodruff spoke about the process for the secession. He spoke about the article that was handed out and the process as described in this article. Mr. Woodruff also spoke in length about this being a political issue and he also spoke about some of the issues that would arise with the secession.

A lengthy discussion continued among the Mayor and Township Council.

Mayor Bruno asked if anyone had questions.

Mrs. Matula of 5 Hastings Road asked if this can be done earlier.

Mayor Bruno responded and gave Mrs. Matula the deadlines.

Stephen Yellin of Dogwood Lane gave some page numbers of the handout on the “Secession in the Garden State” and spoke about the material in these pages. He was surprised page 1443 was not mentioned and spoke about what was on that page.

A lengthy discussion continued.

Mr. Woodruff responded to Mr. Yellin's comments.

Mr. Yellin spoke about Union County being run by Democrats since 1998. He went on to comment in length about the Administrator's that were hired by the Township. Mr. Yellin gave his opinion on the secession from Union County.

A lengthy discussion continued. Mr. Yellin again continued with his comments.

Mayor Bruno responded to Mr. Yellin comments regarding the secession and the Administrators that were hired by the Township.

A resident spoke in length about the handout on the "Secession in the Garden State" and felt the article was erroneous and made comments. He feels we should unite with the Mayors of Union County and change the Board of Freeholders.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved by Mr. Woodruff to approve the following Township Council minutes, seconded by Mr. Pirone and upon roll call vote:

**Work Meeting – December 4, 2012**  
**Public Meeting – December 18, 2012**  
**Re-Organization Meeting – January 1, 2013**  
**Public Meeting – January 8, 2013**

Ayes: Mr. Delia, Mr. Pirone and Mr. Woodruff  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Mr. Pastore, Mrs. Kingsley and Mr. Hall

## **TOWNSHIP COUNCIL REPORTS**

Mr. Delia had nothing to report.

Mr. Pirone had nothing to report

Mr. Woodruff had nothing to report.

Mayor Bruno reported the Township will have their Memorial Day Parade beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Monday and he urged everyone to attend. He added everyone should support our veterans and troops. Mayor Bruno also thanked the Beautification Committee for their efforts with hanging the American flags along the parade route and the residents for their support in that project. Mayor Bruno also reported the Suburban Chamber of Commerce will be holding their Rubber Ducky Race on June 1<sup>st</sup> at Passaic Park.

Moved by Mr. Pirone to accept and approve the Township Council Reports, seconded by Mr. Woodruff and upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Delia, Mr. Pirone and Mr. Woodruff  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Mr. Pastore, Mrs. Kingsley and Mr. Hall

## HEARING ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Moved by Mr. Delia to open the Hearing on the Agenda Items Only, seconded by Mr. Woodruff and upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Delia, Mr. Pirone and Mr. Woodruff  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Mr. Pastore, Mrs. Kingsley and Mr. Hall

Carol Matula of 5 Hastings Road referred to resolution #2 and asked how this money will be spent.

Mayor Bruno responded this is grant money and it will be added to the budget. He added the “Click it or Ticket” will be spent on the patrols and the manpower to do that. The “Clean Communities” grant will be dedicated to cleaning up the community. It will be used for whatever the grant indicates it can be used for.

Mrs. Matula continued with her questions regarding the Police grant.

Chief Mathis responded to Mrs. Matula’s questions on how the grant money will be used.

A discussion continued.

Mrs. Matula referred to resolution #3 and asked if we are adding \$10,000 more to this contract and has it been budgeted.

Mayor Bruno responded yes to Mrs. Matula’s question.

Hearing no voices, moved by Mr. Delia to close the Citizens Hearing, seconded by Mr. Woodruff and upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Delia, Mr. Pirone and Mr. Woodruff  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Mr. Pastore, Mrs. Kingsley and Mr. Hall

## **ORDINANCE BEING HELD UNTIL THE 6/11/13 MEETING – NOT SUFFICIENT COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT AT MEETING TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE**

### **PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES INTRODUCED ON MAY 8, 2013:**

**“AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM RATE OF SALARY AND COMPENSATION OF ELECTED AND APPOINTED TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS, AND NON-UNION EMPLOYEES IN THE VARIOUS MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BERKELEY HEIGHTS”** (Explanation: This ordinance amends the Township’s current Salary Ordinance (Ordinance #4-2013), as amended by (Ordinance # 6-2011) to update and add the salary ranges for the various positions.)

### **NEW BUSINESS- RESOLUTION OFFICIAL ACTION WILL BE TAKEN ON THE FOLLOWING:**

#### **RESOLUTIONS**

**Mr. Delia introduced the following resolution:**

1. Resolution approving Bill List dated May 21, 2013 in the amount of \$176,624.72.

Moved by Mr. Delia to approve resolution #1, seconded by Mr. Woodruff and upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Delia, Mr. Pirone and Mr. Woodruff  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Mr. Pastore, Mrs. Kingsley and Mr. Hall

**Mr. Pirone introduced the following resolution:**

2. Resolution authorizing the insertion of additional revenue in the budget of the year 2013, for “Click It or Ticket 2013 Seat Belt Mobilization” in the amount of \$4,000.00 and “Clean Communities” in the amount of \$23,752.68.

Moved by Mr. Pirone to approve resolution #2, seconded by Mr. Woodruff and upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Delia, Mr. Pirone and Mr. Woodruff  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Mr. Pastore, Mrs. Kingsley and Mr. Hall

**Mr. Woodruff introduced the following resolution:**

3. Resolution authorizing Change Order to provide sludge disposal services for the Water Pollution Control Plant to be performed by Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission for an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 for a new contract amount of \$285,000.00.

Moved by Mr. Woodruff to approve resolution #3, seconded by Mr. Pirone and upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Delia, Mr. Pirone and Mr. Woodruff  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Mr. Pastore, Mrs. Kingsley and Mr. Hall

**CONSENT AGENDA**

All matters listed under Consent Agenda are considered routine by the Township Council and will be enacted upon by one motion; there will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

**Mr. Pirone introduced the following resolution:**

**(4)**

- a. Resolution authorizing a block party for Twin Falls Road, on Saturday, June 1, 2013 from 4:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. with a rain date of Sunday, June 2, 2013.
- b. Resolution supporting the Police Department “Click It or Ticket Seat Belt Mobilization” campaign from May 20-June 2, 2013.
- c. Resolution authorizing the release of a cash bond in the amount of \$23,651.00 to Bob McEwan Construction Corp.

- d. Resolution authorizing the Tax Collector to refund the following 2013 tax overpayment:
- |                 |                     |            |
|-----------------|---------------------|------------|
| 1. Lisa Wengert | 19 Springholm Drive | \$1,787.53 |
|-----------------|---------------------|------------|

Moved by Mr. Pirone to approve Consent Agenda resolutions #4a-d, seconded by Mr. Woodruff and upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Delia, Mr. Pirone and Mr. Woodruff  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Mr. Pastore, Mrs. Kingsley and Mr. Hall

## **CITIZENS HEARING**

Moved by Mr. Pirone to open the Citizens Hearing, seconded by Mr. Woodruff and upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Delia, Mr. Pirone and Mr. Woodruff  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Mr. Pastore, Mrs. Kingsley and Mr. Hall

Tom Foregger of 14 Dorsett Road referred to the salary ordinance and asked if the Fire official position is a new position.

Mayor Bruno responded it is not a new position. The person that was the Fire official was taken off in error. This is just correcting the ordinance.

Tom Foregger of 14 Dorsett Road said the zoning official is also code official and tree inspector. He asked when hiring a zoning official must they be qualified as a tree inspector as well.

Mayor Bruno responded the two positions usually go hand in hand.

Gerald Kuzmik of Eaton Court spoke about the last few weeks he spent accounting for the mosquitoes that are starting to accumulate with the rain and the high water. Mr. Kuzmik also called the Union County Mosquito Commission who came to investigate behind Eaton Court. The County has now put that location on their map. Mr. Kuzmik continued in length with his remarks regarding the mosquito accumulation. Mr. Kuzmik asked if we have started on any of the clean-up with the streams and brooks.

Mayor Bruno responded we have started the process of clean-up. The new Assistant DPW manager has spent the week mapping out the areas to be done. We should be starting within the next week or so.

A lengthy discussion continued. Mr. Kuzmik continued in length to ask questions regarding clean-up and the Mayor and Bob Bocchino, Director of Public Works responded to his questions.

Hearing no voices, moved by Mr. Pirone to close the Citizens Hearing, seconded by Mr. Woodruff and upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Delia, Mr. Pirone and Mr. Woodruff  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Mr. Pastore, Mrs. Kingsley and Mr. Hall

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Mr. Woodruff to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Pirone and upon roll call vote:  
**(8:11 p.m.)**

Ayes: Mr. Delia, Mr. Pirone and Mr. Woodruff  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Mr. Pastore, Mrs. Kingsley and Mr. Hall

**Approved: August 20, 2013**